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COLLEGE RADIO FACES THE WAR EMERGENCY

During the war emergency many of the extra-curricular activities have not found it possible to survive.

On the whole, the college radio stations have done a good job. Faced with the lack of personnel and the utter impossibility of obtaining replacement parts, most of our stations are still operating although many of them on a limited basis.

Now that a great number of the college newspapers have been forced to cease publication for the duration of the war, the college radio stations are the principal medium of communication on the campuses.

We are fully cognizant of the difficulties under which you are operating, and so we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the personnel on all of our stations on the grand job they are doing.

Realizing that many of the students are no longer able to devote as much time to the radio stations as formerly, the IBS is redoubling its efforts to obtain scripts and transcription of shows which have been successful on the college stations. If we can build our script exchange into something useful, it would greatly ease the burden of programming at the individual colleges. If each college would send us even one good script or record, we would have a good foundation on which to build.

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Editor-Harriette R. Slote

PROGRAM DEPARTMENT REPORT

During the past month we have received some novel and interesting program ideas from the colleges. I should like to briefly mention some of them in the hope that they may be practicable for other colleges. Haverford has three novel programs: "The Board of Experts", patterned after "Information Please", with professors as the experts, a student written "Soap Opera", which is very amusing, and "International Hour" consisting of four fifteen-minute blocks of oral French, German, Spanish, and Italian. Aside from some excellent standard type programs, Yale has a one man variety show "Gullible's Travels" which has proven very popular. Radcliffe, our newest member, puts on some outstanding educational features. "The Poet Speaks" is a half-hour each week in which a poet reads and comments on his own poetry. (I am sure that each campus would provide some interesting faculty members who would be delighted to air their talents!) Radcliffe also produces "Music I Listening Hour", which runs parallel to the college's basic course in the history and development of music.

President Al Eurich of WMS tells us that plans for the coming semester are pretty well set, although the station is faced with a real shortage of replacement parts for worn and damaged equipment. Many of the same features which proved popular during the summer will again be featured this fall, including a weekly news analysis by Miguel Jorin, visiting lecturer in Political Science, Ira Cohen, V-12 tenor, the V-12 octet, and a 7:30 A.M. informal show. Incidentally Harvard, Yale, and Williams have all found early morning shows to be very popular, especially with the Navy men.

Any sample scripts of these or other shows would be very valuable for distribution to other colleges. Please send them to the New York office.

Harriette R. Slote
Acting Program Manager

UCRS Celebrates Second Birthday
Paul Yergin tells 27 Year History of Radio at Union College

Back in 1916 when radio was still in its swaddling clothes, Union College students did research on loop antennas which resulted in the adoption of this type of antenna for direction finding and other work. In 1920 they began a regular series of radio broadcasts. These were the first musical programs put on by any college station and some of the first in the country. Station W2YU did not stop at scooping the country on music, but a few days later broadcast the returns from the 1920 election. Later in the fall the station scored several other firsts when it broadcast the football game with Rhode Island State for the benefit of the students at that institution. Other outdoor sports were soon relayed to listeners at great distances by the Radio Club.

By 1921 the station had several transmitters in operation on different frequencies. That year it acquired the call letters WRL for part of its equipment. From then until 1933 the radiotelegraph station was known as W2XQ, and the radiotelephone station as WRL. In the middle of the thirties with the reorganization of student activities, the Radio Club obtained equipment for use in announcing scores and plays of football games, and for other work around the campus. About that time the Radio Workshop was formed primarily for the purpose of writing and producing radio programs. For several years they put on shows over short wave stations in Schenectady.

About 1940 the two groups became interested in the new form of broadcasting which had been started at Brown.

In 1941 a wired-radio frequency system was installed at Union. The first broadcast took place at 5:45 on September 22, 1941. In 1942 the three radio groups on the campus combined and have since been known as the Radio Society with the call letters UCRS. This organization has within itself possibilities for activity along any and every line of radio; amateur radio (suspended for the duration), regular broadcasting from any angle, and experimental work in radio.

In a special broadcast commemorating the second anniversary of the college's intra-mural broadcasting system, President Dixon Ryan Fox, and Dr. Charles Waldron reminisced on the early days of college broadcasting. Mr. David Borst, IES Technical Manager was invited to attend this broadcast. When he arrived, he was invited to give a short talk.

Recently the station moved into a new studio in the basement of the Psi Upsilon fraternity. The new accommodations are superior to the old, and everything on the campus is covered. Officers for the coming semester include: Paul Yergin, Robert Boyar, Kenneth Hecht, and Robert Brooks.

TECHNICAL FACILITIES OF RADIO RADCLIFFE

Three rooms are available to the students of Radio Radcliffe; an outer office, a small studio, and a connecting control room of about the same size. A glass window separates the two studios and permits observation by the control operator at the four channel mixer, of all activities in the studio. Two 78 rpm turntables, a small table and chairs are located in the studio.

The mixer channels are for two high impedance crystal mikes, two phonographs with crystal pickups (by fader type control) and one remote line used principally for relaying programs from the Harvard Crimson Network over a rented telephone line. The mixer is provided with a volume indicator employing a 0-1 milliamper meter and diode audio rectifier. Speakers located in the control room are fed signals directly from the monitor amplifier, or from a radio receiver tuned to the transmitter. Speakers are used for aural monitoring, no earphones being provided. No monitor speaker is provided in the studio.

The audio line to the Crimson Network is terminated at both ends in select or switches which permit sending of programs in either direction, or telephone conversations over the carbon telephone hand-sets.

A transmitter running at twenty watts input on 560 kc. and located in the control room, feed energy (radio) at that point into the 220/110 lighting circuit in the building. Since the power circuits of the adjacent buildings are interconnected, signals are heard in a total of four dormitories housing 345 students. Checks with portable radio sets indicate that power radiated from the buildings on the fundamental frequency is very low, and, because the transmitter uses a final tank circuit with large tuning capacitor, the harmonic radiation is very low, in fact almost non-existent.

David W. Borst
Technical Manager

TECHNICAL FACILITIES OF WHAV

Besides a good sized studio and a small control room, the Haverford College Radio Station also has available space for a workshop and an office. A four channel mixer is used to combine the outputs of two mikes and two phonographs. A switching arrangement on one of the phono channels makes it available for remote programs. Two crystal mikes and two 78 rpm. turntables and pickups are used for programming. No volume indicator is in use at present, instead two monitor speakers are used, one fed from the transmitter modulator, and the other from a receiver tuned to the transmitter and earphones. Monitoring signals are provided the control man. A telephone line amplifier is used to send signals to Bryn Mawr College two miles away over rented phone lines. As this line is quite short, it has good transmission characteristics up to 4000 cycles and so is not equalized. Four amplifiers with various output levels may be borrowed for use on remote broadcasts. Each amplifier has at least two mike inputs. Three additional crystal mikes can be obtained for remote work. Cue signals are obtained by portable radio or by feeding the Bryn Mawr amplifier into the remote line. A 15 watt transmitter on 580 kc using a crystal for frequency control feeds r.f. to three dorms. R.F. is fed over twisted pair from a coupling device to 110 volt ac lines in the buildings.